

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1(Currently Amended). A protein expression vector comprising (a) a nucleotide sequence encoding an IgG(κ) or a trypsin secretory signal peptide, (b) a nucleotide sequence encoding a polyhistidine amino acid sequence, (c) a nucleotide sequence encoding ~~an amino acid sequence~~ a polypeptide comprising amino acid residues 36-40 of SEQ ID NO:19 (Asp-Asp-Asp-Asp-Lys), ~~which wherein said polypeptide~~ is cleavable by an enterokinase, and (d) a cloning site into which a ~~nucleotide sequence~~ polynucleotide encoding a target protein can be inserted, wherein:

(a), (b), (c) and (d) are assembled within the vector in the order recited;

the expression vector further comprises a polynucleotide encoding at least one amino acid residue, wherein said polynucleotide is located between the 3' end of the polynucleotide encoding the IgG(κ) or the trypsin secretory signal peptide and the 5' end of the polynucleotide having the nucleotide sequence of (c); and

the polynucleotide encoding at least one amino acid residue is a polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide comprising amino acid residues 24-29 of SEQ ID NO:19 (Leu-Val-His-Gly-Lys-Leu).

Claims 2-5 (Cancelled).

6 (Currently Amended). ~~[[The]]~~ A protein expression vector according to claim 4, comprising (a) a nucleotide sequence encoding an IgG(κ) or a trypsin secretory signal peptide, (b) a nucleotide sequence encoding a polyhistidine amino acid sequence, (c) a nucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide comprising amino acid residues 36-40 of SEQ ID NO:19 (Asp-Asp-Asp-Asp-Lys), wherein said polypeptide is cleavable by an enterokinase, and (d) a cloning site into which a polynucleotide encoding a target protein can be inserted, wherein:

(a), (b), (c) and (d) are assembled within the vector in the order recited;

the expression vector further comprises a polynucleotide encoding at least one amino acid residue, wherein said polynucleotide is located between the 3' end of the polynucleotide encoding the IgG(κ) or the trypsin secretory signal peptide and the 5' end of the polynucleotide having the nucleotide sequence of (c); wherein

the polynucleotide encoding at least one amino acid residue ~~is composed of~~ comprises at least a nucleotide sequence encoding amino acids ~~acids-residues~~ 36-40 of SEQ ID NO:19 (Asp-Asp-Asp-Lys).

Claims 7-12 (Cancelled).

13 (Currently Amended). ~~[[The]]~~ A protein expression vector ~~according to claim 2,~~ comprising (a) a nucleotide sequence encoding an IgG(κ) or a trypsin secretory signal peptide, (b) a nucleotide sequence encoding a polyhistidine amino acid sequence, (c) a nucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide comprising amino acid residues 36-40 of SEQ ID NO:19 (Asp-Asp-Asp-Lys), wherein said polypeptide is cleavable by an enterokinase, and (d) a cloning site into which a polynucleotide encoding a target protein can be inserted, wherein:

(a), (b), (c) and (d) are assembled within the vector in the order recited, wherein:

a polynucleotide encoding a target protein is inserted in the cloning site (d); and

the polypeptide ~~wherein the nucleotide sequence~~ encoding the target protein is that encoding neurosin.

Claims 14-16 (Cancelled).

17(Currently Amended). [[The]] A host cell according to claim 15, transformed with the protein expression vector comprising (a) a nucleotide sequence encoding an IgG(κ) or a trypsin secretory signal peptide, (b) a nucleotide sequence encoding a polyhistidine amino acid sequence, (c) a nucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide comprising amino acid residues 36-40 of SEQ ID NO:19 (Asp-Asp-Asp-Asp-Lys), wherein: said polypeptide is cleavable by an enterokinase, and (d) a cloning site into which a polynucleotide encoding a target protein can be inserted, wherein:

(a), (b), (c) and (d) are assembled within the vector in the order recited;

a polynucleotide encoding a target protein is inserted in the cloning site (d); and

said animal cell is an insect cell.

Claims 18-30 (Cancelled).